

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/642,711

Applicant(s)

MI ET AL.

Examiner

Art Unit

Ismael Negron

2875

*-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--*

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1.  This communication is responsive to Amendment filed May 8, 2005.
2.  The allowed claim(s) is/are 2-25 and 27.
3.  The drawings filed on 18 August 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4.  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a)  All    b)  Some\*    c)  None    of the:
  1.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  3.  Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5.  A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6.  CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.  
(a)  including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached  
    1)  hereto or 2)  to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_.  
(b)  including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of  
    Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_.
7.  DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1.  Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2.  Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3.  Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
    Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_
4.  Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
    of Biological Material
5.  Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6.  Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
    Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_.
7.  Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8.  Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9.  Other \_\_\_\_.

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Response to Amendment***

1. Applicant's amendment filed on May 18, 2005 has been entered. Claims 2-5, 8-13, 15, 17-20, 22, 23, 25 and 27 have been amended. Claims 1 and 26 have been cancelled. No claim has been added. Claims 2-25 and 27 are still pending in this application, with claims 25 and 27 being independent.
2. The drawings filed August 18, 2003 are acceptable. The Examiner's objection to such drawings, indicated in the Office Action Summary (PTOL-326) mailed April 18 of 2005, is hereby withdrawn.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

3. Claims 2-25 and 27 are allowed.
4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Applicant teaches a brightness enhancing article having a prism surface with a plurality of spaced-apart substantially trapezoidal prism elements. Each prism element includes a face plane, a base plane and first and second non-parallel planes extending between the base and face planes. Each one of the first and second planes forms an angle  $\beta$  with the face plane, such angle being greater than  $90^\circ$  and less than  $120^\circ$ . The ratio of the height of the prism elements and their pitch providing an output light cut-off angle being the largest of:

$$\theta_{c1} = \sin^{-1} \left( n \sin \left( \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{P}{H} - \frac{1}{\tan \alpha} \right) \right) \right)$$

$$\theta_{c2} = \sin^{-1} \left( n \sin \left( \sin^{-1} \left( \frac{1}{n} \right) + 2\alpha - 180^\circ \right) \right)$$

$$\theta_{c3} = \sin^{-1} \left( n \sin \left( \sin^{-1} \left( \frac{\sin \theta_{c1}}{n} \right) + 2\alpha - 180^\circ \right) \right)$$

where  $\alpha = 180^\circ - \beta$ , and  $n$  is the index of refraction of the prism element material.

No prior art was found teaching individually, or suggesting in combination, all of the features of the applicants' invention, specifically the claimed prism elements geometric requirements for the absolute value of the cutoff angle, in combination with the claimed brightness enhancement article.

5. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Conclusion***

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ismael Negron whose telephone number is (571) 272-

2376. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 9:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sandra L. O'Shea, can be reached on (571) 272-2378. The facsimile machine number for the Art Group is (703) 872-9306.

7. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications maybe obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, go to <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) toll-free at 866-217-9197.



THOMAS M. SEMBER  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

  
Inr

August 5, 2005